

Nancy's News

March Issue

Office of Councilmember Nancy Pyle



March 2006 Issue

Dear District 10 Residents and Friends,

Top of the morning to you! With St. Patrick's Day just around the corner fun facts, events and trivia abound throughout this issue. More importantly, I want to focus on an issue that I know all of us hold very dear - the safety of our District 10 community. Since this is a critical part of my job as your Councilmember, I'm excited to tell you about a fantastic **forum on Community Safety** that I'm holding on **March 15th** at the Almaden Winery Community Center.

On countless occasions my office receives e-mails and phone calls from residents concerned about community safety. As these individuals work with my staff, we are better equipped to report safety concerns and find solutions to these problems. I believe this interaction is critical to the health, safety and success of our District. Additionally, it also reflects the importance of being an active resident when it comes to local community safety. Just a few weeks ago, a distressed resident e-mailed my office with concerns over his family's shopping experience at a local shopping center. After writing a response to the e-mail, I was able to coordinate a meeting between Captain Farmer of the SJPd, myself and the shopping center's General Manager. Outcomes of this new working partnership have included plans to increase the presence of security and an ongoing collaboration between the shopping center, the SJPd and VTA to deter unwelcome and problematic guests. In addition, I plan to increase my office's outreach to local schools, working with the administrations to support and ensure the safety of our community's greatest asset, that being our children. Through the vigilance of proactive residents, my office is able to remain informed of your concerns and act quickly to ensure the comfort and safety of all District 10 residents. Each of you can be just as active in our community when it comes to safety and I believe that the March Forum is a great place to start.

Community safety can be discussed on a variety of levels and for this reason we will have representatives from the San Jose Police Department including **SJPd's Chief Rob Davis** as well as representatives from the San Jose Fire Department participating in our upcoming March Forum. The panel of speakers we've invited are experts who will focus on a broad range of safety topics including crime prevention, fire safety, neighborhood watch, and earthquake preparedness. I cannot stress enough that the best first step to ensuring a safe community is by gaining the knowledge that we can give you at this upcoming forum. As a District 10 resident your safety is one of my top concerns and I would encourage all of you to bring friends to the March Forum and share this valuable experience with your friends, families and neighbors.

Happy St. Patrick's Day & best wishes,

Nancy Halloran Pyle
Councilmember, District Ten



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Nancy, along with Mayor Ron Gonzales, presents a commendation to the Silicon Valley Yankees 10-and-Under baseball team. The Yankees took home the national title in their victory against the Arizona Heat Baseball Club on New Year's Day with the score of 16-6.

San Jose Announcements & Highlights

- **As of Wednesday, February 15th 2006** a new set of flashing beacons have been activated on the crosswalk next to Vineland Branch Library on Blossom Hill Road in order to ensure the safety of local residents in Districts 9 & 10.
- **Special thanks to the members of San Jose Elks Lodge #522.** Members Hank Lapachet, Dan Rees, Tom Thielbar, Tony Benanti, Jay Hockenbury, Tom Kelly, Ivan Klitgaard, Carlo Pedron, Bob Pfahni, & Ken Wilson volunteered to clean up Highway 85 South from Bascom Ave. and Highway 97 South from Capitol Expressway. Kudos to each of these dedicated San Jose residents!
- **In the 2004-2005 fiscal year, San Jose Library Circulation** rose 2% over the previous year, even with the closure of three libraries for all or part of the year. In the past four fiscal years alone, circulation has increased by 54%. On a related note, the new **Almaden Library & Community Center** will hold its **grand opening on Saturday May 13th.**
- **The VEP Community Association** will be welcoming the addition of the Vista Park Community Center to it's neighborhood with a **grand opening** of the new facility scheduled for **10:30 am on Saturday March 18th.**

District 10 Events for March

District 10's March Forum on Community Safety



**Wednesday, March 15th at 7:00pm @ the
Almaden Winery Community Center
(5730 Chambertin Dr.)**

Come join Councilmember Pyle and special guests: San Jose Police Department **Chief Rob Davis**, **Captain Jack Farmer** and **Crime Prevention Specialist Tamara Davis** as they discuss crime prevention and Neighborhood Watch strategies. Also **Gracie Corral** from the San Jose Fire Department will focus on fire prevention and earthquake preparedness. **Steve Wing**, Deputy Independent Police Auditor for San Jose will also attend. Come for the presentation, stay for the delicious dessert, and leave with valuable information!



**Councilmember Pyle at the 2006 Amgen Tour in
Downtown San Jose.**

D-10 High School Juniors & Seniors Save the Date!

Councilmember Pyle's office is holding the
2nd Annual District 10 Youth Job Fair
at a local high school near you in April!

Come join the Silicon Valley Workforce Investment Network & Westfield Oakridge as they educate students about the job market and present a high school focused career fair. The dates and locations are as follows:

Gunderson High School – April 6th (3:00-5:00 pm)
Pioneer High School – April 12th (2:30-4:30 pm)
Leland High School – April 28th (1:40-3:30 pm)

D10 Recipe of the Month

Irish Soda Bread

Ingredients

4 cups all-purpose flour
1 cup white sugar
1 teaspoon baking soda
2 teaspoons baking powder
1/2 teaspoon salt
3 eggs
1 pint sour cream
1 cup raisins

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 325 degrees F (165 degrees C). Grease two 8x4 inch loaf pans.
2. Mix the flour, sugar, baking soda, baking powder and salt. Add the eggs, sour cream and raisins and mix until just combined. Distribute batter evenly between the two pans.
3. Bake loaves at 325 degrees F (165 degrees C) for 1 hour.

St. Patrick's Day in the Garden
Friday, March 17 3:30 to 5:00 PM
\$5.00 per child (Ages: 5-10)

With a little Irish luck, join the Friends of Guadalupe River Park & Gardens for a treasure hunt through the gardens. They'll also explore rainbows and see if it's possible to find the end of a rainbow and make a leprechaun trap to take home to find any leprechauns lurking around our homes.

The workshop is designed for children five years of age and older and will be held at the Guadalupe River Park & Gardens Visitor & Education Center, located at 438 Coleman Avenue in San Jose. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Space is limited, so reserve your spot early by sending by contacting Kary Houle-Wilson, the Education Coordinator, at education@grpjg.org or 408-298-7657. Please visit www.grpjg.org for more information.

CINEQUEST RETURNS TO PLUSH DOWNTOWN THEATERS

The 16th edition of Cinequest Film Festival includes 191 feature and short films, to be shown March 1-12 at three downtown locations: Camera 12 Cinemas, 201 S. Second St.; the California Theatre, 345 S. First St.; and San Jose Repertory Theatre, 101 Paseo de San Antonio. This year's feature lineup consists of 21 world, 14 North American and four United States premieres. Information and tickets are available through www.cinequest.org.

Neighborhood Center

SAN JOSE LIBRARY EVENTS

Are you aware of the plethora of services, activities and events happening at your local branch library? Check out their website at <http://www.sjlibrary.org/about/events/>.

UPCOMING AWARDS AND GRANTS

- **Community Foundation of Silicon Valley Neighborhood Grants** - This yearly program provides grants of \$500 to \$5,000 and technical assistance to help resident-based groups conduct activities that improve neighborhood conditions or address issues important to their quality of life. ***The grant deadline is March 31, 2006.*** For more information, view the Community Foundations website at http://www.cfsv.org/grants_neighborhood.html

SAN JOSE CITY ELECTIONS 2006

The City will conduct a **primary election** on June 6, 2006 for the purpose of electing a Mayor and Councilmembers from Districts 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9. If no candidate for office receives a majority vote in June, a run-off election will be held on November 7, 2006. Visit the [City Clerk's Website](#) to learn more or call (408) 535-1260.



Nancy & her husband with Alex Fraser (left), President of the Almaden Hills Estates Homeowner Association following the State of the City Address.

Tours of City Hall

You can still tour the new City Hall facility Monday – Friday with a self guided tour or a docent led tour on Tuesdays at noon. **Come and visit – we'd love to see you! Call 277-4000 for more information.**

Contact Us

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VOLUNTEER! AND BRING THE KIDS!

A Bicycle "Roadeo" is a simple bike course designed to teach children basic skills needed to be a safe bicyclist. As a Bicycle Safety Course Assistant, you will be monitoring and assisting youth ages 5-15, through bike course stations and checking bike helmets for proper fit. If you're interested in helping to keep San José's young bike riders safe, and if your foot fits the pedal, please contact Veronica Posada, School Safety Education Coordinator with the City's **Department of Transportation**, at **975-3296** for more information.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

Keep toxic chemicals from affecting our neighborhoods and waterways by disposing of these materials properly. Materials such as paints, batteries, garden and cleaning chemicals can NOT be disposed in garbage or recycling carts. Visit <http://www.hhw.org/> or call **(408) 299-7300** to find out about **FREE hazardous material drop-off**.

St. Patrick's Day Facts & Trivia

- **Green is associated** with St. Patrick's Day because it's the color of Spring & also one of the national colors of Ireland.
- **The first St. Patrick's Day** in America was celebrated in Boston in 1737.
- **The shamrock** is a traditional symbol of St. Patrick's day & Ireland because St. Patrick used the three-leafed shamrock to represent how the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit of Catholic teachings could exist as separate elements in the same entity.
- **The word 'leprechaun'** is from a mixture of 'luchorpan' or 'small person' and a word meaning 'one-shoemaker.' As a St. Patrick's Day symbol, the leprechaun is a smiling, merry little elf. However, legend tells us that the leprechaun is always grumpy, untrustworthy and very tricky. In ancient myths, the leprechaun guards a hidden pot of gold which humans try to find. According to legend, the leprechauns must reveal their treasure if seen, however, if the captor's eyes leave the leprechaun, he vanishes as do all hopes of finding his treasure.

And now for this month's trivia question:

Was Saint Patrick Irish?

- Answers to this and more can be found on the D10 website -

City Council Meetings

The City Council convenes every Tuesday at 1:30 PM at **200 East Santa Clara Street**. On the first and third Tuesday of the month the Council meets at 7:00 PM for Public Hearings.

Looking for even more news?

Have you visited the District 10 website lately? Keep up to date on the D10 news that's important to you at <http://www.sanjoseca.gov/district10/> !

Community Calendar

Wednesday, Mar. 1, 2006: 9:45 AM-11:00 AM
Almaden Senior Association Monthly Meeting
Almaden Winery Community Center; 5370
Chambertin Drive

Wednesday, Mar. 8, 2006: 6:00 PM-7:30 PM
Hoffman/Via Monte Neighborhood Association Monthly Meeting
Almaden Hills United Methodist Church; 1200
Blossom Hill Road

Wednesday, Mar. 8, 2006: 7:30 PM-8:30PM
Montevideo Homeowners Association Monthly Meeting
Corner of Coleman and Camden, in the
clubhouse behind the pool

Thursday, Mar. 9, 2006: 7:00 PM-8:30 PM
Santa Teresa Foothills Neighborhood Association (STFNA) Monthly Meeting
Southside Community Center; 5585 Cottle Road

Monday, Mar. 13, 2006: 7:00 PM-8:30 PM
Almaden Valley Community Association (AVCA) meeting
Almaden Pizza Co. -- 5965 Almaden Expy
(Almaden Expy. & McAbee Rd.)

Wednesday, Mar. 15, 2006: 6:30 PM-8:30 PM
Hoffman/Via Monte Neighborhood Action Council (NAC) Monthly Meeting
Almaden Hills United Methodist Church; 1200
Blossom Hill Road

Tuesday, Mar. 28, 2006: 7:30 PM
VEP General Meeting
Gunderson High School; 622 Gaundabert Lane

Answer for last month's trivia question

Q: Which Pope established St. Valentine's Day as a celebration of love and for what reason did he do so in 496 A.D.?

A: Pope Gelsius. In England, the Romans, who had taken over the country, had introduced a pagan fertility festival held every February 14. After the Romans left England, Pope Gelsius, who established St. Valentine's Day as a celebration of love in 496 A.D., abolished the pagan ritual. It wasn't until 1537 that St. Valentine's Day was declared an official holiday. England's King Henry VIII declared February 14th a holiday in 1537 for the first time.

